



## ***CHARLES COUNTY 2002 AGRICULTURAL PROFILE***

Charles county is located on the Southern Maryland peninsula between the Patuxent and Potomac Rivers in the Atlantic coastal Plain. Most of the land area is drained by tributaries of the Potomac River and elevations range from a few feet to more than 200 above sea level. In 2000 the population was 120,546.

Agricultural lands in Charles County occupy approximately 19 percent of the county's total land area of 295,095 acres. Of the land in farms, 30 percent of it is woodland.

Tobacco is, and has been for over 300 years, the major cash crop. It is produced on 28 percent of the farms, and annual production is about 1.3 million pounds. The market value of tobacco was \$3.7 million for the 1997 crop.

Other field crops include corn, soybeans, and small grain. These crops are sold primarily as cash grains, but also support animal enterprises. Swine is the most important livestock enterprise.

## ***CHARLES COUNTY AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS***

| <i>Crop</i>            | <i>Year</i> | <i>Unit</i>  | <i>Acreage Harvested</i> | <i>Average Yield</i> | <i>Total Production</i> |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Corn for Grain</b>  | <b>2000</b> | <b>Bu.</b>   | 6,300                    | 157.9                | 995,000                 |
|                        | <b>2001</b> |              | 6,700                    | 135.7                | 909,000                 |
|                        | <b>2002</b> |              | 6,700                    | 56.7                 | 380,000                 |
| <b>Corn for Silage</b> | <b>2000</b> | <b>Tons.</b> | *                        | *                    | *                       |
|                        | <b>2001</b> |              | *                        | *                    | *                       |
|                        | <b>2002</b> |              | *                        | *                    | *                       |
| <b>Soybeans</b>        | <b>2000</b> | <b>Bu.</b>   | 9,200                    | 42.3                 | 389,000                 |
|                        | <b>2001</b> |              | 11,900                   | 37.5                 | 446,000                 |
|                        | <b>2002</b> |              | 12,500                   | 15.0                 | 187,500                 |
| <b>Wheat</b>           | <b>2000</b> | <b>Bu.</b>   | 3,100                    | 54.1                 | 167,800                 |
|                        | <b>2001</b> |              | 3,000                    | 56.3                 | 169,000                 |
|                        | <b>2002</b> |              | 3,100                    | 57.1                 | 177,000                 |
| <b>Hay</b>             | <b>2000</b> | <b>Tons.</b> | 4,000                    | 2.5                  | 10,000                  |
|                        | <b>2001</b> |              | 3,800                    | 2.0                  | 7,500                   |
|                        | <b>2002</b> |              | 4,000                    | 2.5                  | 10,100                  |
| <b>Barley</b>          | <b>2000</b> | <b>Bu.</b>   | *                        | *                    | *                       |
|                        | <b>2001</b> |              | *                        | *                    | *                       |
|                        | <b>2002</b> |              | *                        | *                    | *                       |
| <b>Tobacco</b>         | <b>2000</b> | <b>Bu.</b>   | 1,000                    | 1,575                | 1,574,600               |
|                        | <b>2001</b> |              | 300                      | 1,500                | 450,000                 |
|                        | <b>2002</b> |              | 200                      | 1,395                | 279,000                 |

***Crop Production***  
***Rank among MD. Counties, 2002***

|         |    |          |    |
|---------|----|----------|----|
| Corn    | 16 | Oats     | 3  |
| Wheat   | 16 | Barley   | 3  |
| Hay     | 12 | Soybeans | 17 |
| Tobacco | 3  |          |    |

***Livestock Inventories***  
***Rank among MD. Counties, 1997 <sup>1</sup>***

|           |    |
|-----------|----|
| Cattle    | 14 |
| Hogs      | 13 |
| Sheep     | 14 |
| Milk Cows | 3  |

# CHARLES COUNTY AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

| <i><b>Farm Number &amp; Size <sup>1</sup></b></i>      | <b>1987</b>                      | <b>1992</b>                    | <b>1997</b> |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Number of Farms  | 917                              | 840                            | 781         |
| Average Size <i>(acres)</i>                            | 101                              | 99                             | 97          |
| Land in Farms <i>(acres)</i>                           | 92,806                           | 83,232                         | 75,795      |
| <i><b>Livestock (Number on Farms) <sup>1</sup></b></i> |                                  |                                |             |
| Cattle Inventory                                       | 14,631                           | 12,401                         | 9,642       |
| Hog Inventory  | 3,935                            | 4,645                          | 2,480       |
| Sheep Inventory  | 2,504                            | 4,272                          | 3,004       |
| <i><b>Value of Sales <sup>1</sup></b></i>              |                                  | <i><b>(\$1,000)</b></i>        |             |
| All Products   | 39,750                           | 40,611                         | 51,179      |
| Crops  | 19,725                           | 26,311                         | 34,963      |
| Livestock, Poultry, and Poultry Products               | 20,025                           | 14,300                         | 16,216      |
| <br><i><b>Equine, 2002</b></i>                         |                                  |                                |             |
| <i>Equine Inventory</i>                                | <i>Value of Equine Inventory</i> | <i>Number of Equine Places</i> |             |
|  | <i>1,000 dollars</i>             |                                |             |
| 1,640  | 7,375                            | 490                            |             |
| <b>Cash Rents</b>                                      |                                  |                                |             |
|  | <b>2000</b>                      | <b>2001</b>                    | <b>2002</b> |
| Cropland <i>dollars per acre</i>                       | 31.03                            | 35.57                          | 39.61       |

<sup>1</sup> Source: Census of Agriculture, NASS.

<sup>2</sup> Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

<sup>3</sup> Unranked - Data not published.

<sup>4</sup> Revised.

\* Acreage too small to publish .

